

HIGHLIGHTS

The Valley Symphony Orchestra will perform excerpts from "Rigoletto" with French hornist Dick Fisher in the Little Theatre tonight at 8 p.m. \$10; \$7 for students and seniors.

The LAVC Historical Museum Association will meet March 10 at 3 p.m. in the Cafeteria Conference Room. James E. Slosson, a top California geologist, will speak on "The Latest Seismic Findings."

The annual Valley College Job Fair will take place March 12 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Monarch Square. Students are advised to bring their resumes.

Phi Theta Kappa, the new honor society at Valley College will meet March 12 at 6 p.m. in Room 100 of the Physics Building. A 3.5 GPA and 30 completed units are required to join the society.

The deadline to register for the LAVC Mathematical Competition is 1 p.m. March 14. See Albert Nati in the Math Science Building, Room 104D, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 1-3 p.m. Bring a current registration receipt and valid photo ID. The competition will take place March 21.

The deadline for filing for Fall '97 graduation is March 14 at 4 p.m. Petitions are available in the Graduation Office, Room 127 of the Administration Building.

The world premiere of "Slumber Party" by Brady Sewell Thomas, a comedy about love relationships, will open March 14 at the Road Theatre Company in the Lankershim Arts Center, located at 5108 Lankershim Blvd., North Hollywood. Call (818) 761-8838 for more information.

Representatives from four-year colleges and universities, including CSUN, UCLA and CSULA, continue to visit with students during the month of March on a walk-in and appointment basis. For more information, call (818) 778-0332 or stop by Room 126 of the Administration Building.

A two-day seminar, "Be a Tour Guide!" will be conducted at Valley College March 22 and 29, 9 a.m. - noon, by Mary Stewart-Hazelton, a veteran of the travel industry and author of "A Tour Guide's Guide." For more information, call (818) 988-3911.

POLICE WATCH

An altercation occurred between several Compton basketball players and spectators and four Valley College students following the Valley/Compton Basketball game Wednesday night. The disturbance occurred at about 9:30 p.m. between the Men's Gymnasium and the Quad areas of campus. Three Compton students were temporarily taken into custody.

A disabled vehicle was stolen from Lot G March 1. The vehicle was an '83 Toyota.

Unknown suspects attempted a grand theft of an auto in lot G March 3. The suspects disabled the ignition of the vehicle and then fled the scene.

Information provided by Campus Police.

Cafeteria Violates 22 Health Codes

Luis Vasquez/Valley Star

■ **Health:** Surprise inspection finds a total of 50 code violations in campus food service areas.

By LINDA E. THOMAS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A County Health Department inspection last week found a total of 50 health code violations in the Valley College cafeteria and other food service areas, including insect, hazardous material, employee hygiene and disease transmission violations, officials said.

The Environmental Health Department conducted a surprise inspection of the Valley College food service areas Feb. 24 because of a student complaint, Arnaldo Juarez of the West Valley District Environmental Health office said.

Other violations concerned food storage, wall and ceiling, floor, lighting, ventilation, sanitation, waste and equipment violations. The cafeteria alone had 22 violations, the court satellite had 12, the coffee house had nine and the arcade had seven, according to the official inspection report.

Environmental Health Specialist Michael Burk, who conducted the Feb. 24 inspection, also conducted a second inspection of the coffeehouse Monday.

"I rechecked the coffee house and I didn't find too much in way of compliance," Burk said. "It was not satisfactory."

Burk said he discussed his findings with a coffee house employee present at the time and would return for another recheck of campus food service areas within the next few days.

"I was here when they came on the initial complaint," Mary Ann

Breckell, vice president of administration, said. "We will take care of whatever we need to take care of. Our approach is to not be in violation of anything."

Breckell said Wednesday that she could not comment on the specific violations because she said she had not seen the Feb. 24 report yet, which was given to Valley College Feb. 24 by the health department.

"The school does have a copy of the report," Breckell said.

Al Washington, business representative for the L.A. Community College District Local 99 Union said that he had spoken with Breckell earlier and said, "She is aware of the violations. She knows about them and she knows what they are."

"I'm aware that the health department has been here," Breckell said. "My understanding is that, I have not seen the report. Period. I have no idea when I'm going to have an opportunity to see the report."

Breckell refused to look at copies of the inspection report acquired by the *Valley Star* directly from the health department and offered by a *Valley Star* reporter during her interview.

Washington said cafeteria conditions had long been a concern.

"We've been complaining about this for at least the past year," Washington said. "Our concern is that they [cafeteria workers] are not receiving the proper training. The manager of the cafeteria, it is his job that the people who come in

there have the proper skills to do the job."

Washington said that the union has a contract with the Los Angeles Community College District.

"Since we have a contract with the district, our concern is the health and safety of our employees as required by our contract, that they have a safe place to work with proper ventilation, free of infestation and proper handling of food, for instance," Washington said. "Those are some of the concerns we have."

Washington said that he was not aware that there were ventilation, insect and food handling violations.

"Our contract says they must provide for the health and safety of our employees," Washington said. "There are definitely contract violations, not to mention the people we're serving. The college administration is responsible to make sure those violations do not occur, to train employees and to maintain the facilities."

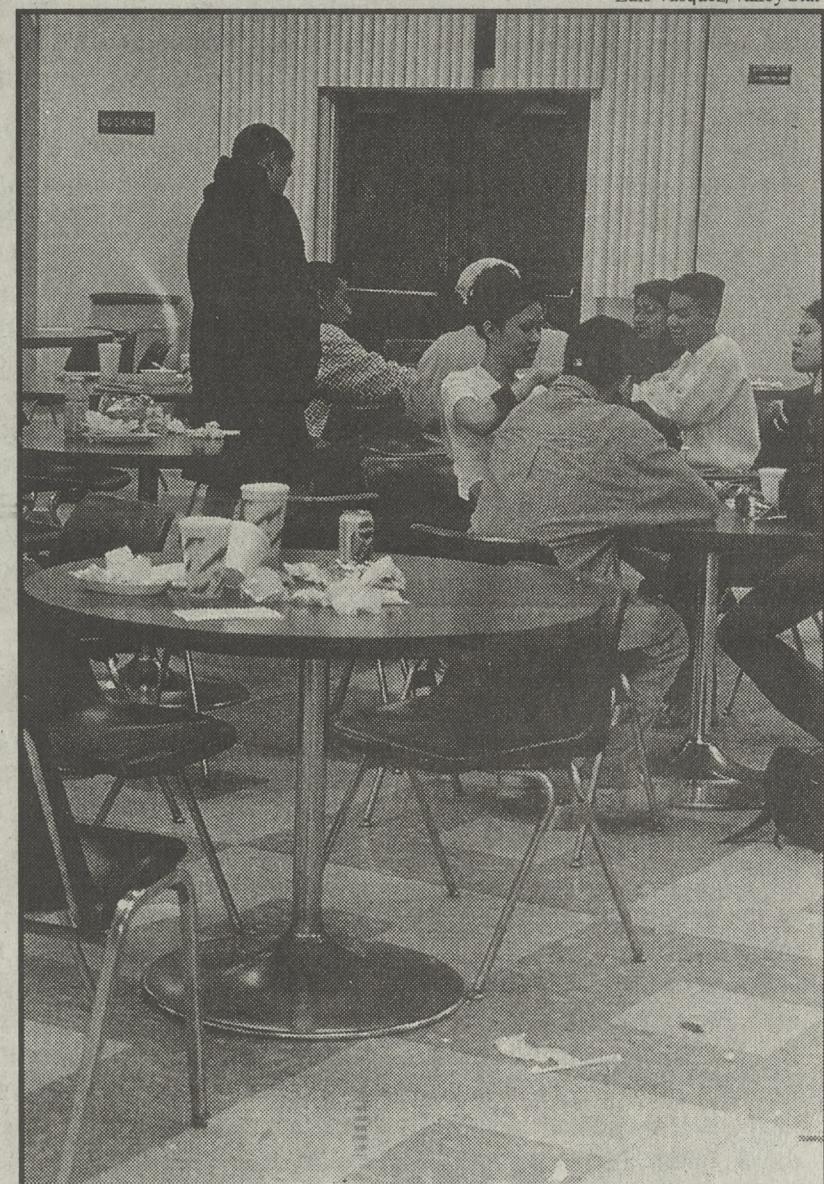
Valley College students have also complained about cafeteria problems.

Valley student Jennifer Cortese said she recently found a bug in her soup during lunch time.

"It was a roach," Cortese said. "They don't check the food or anything before they give it to a student. They feed us bugs."

Another Valley student, who asked not to be named, said she recently found a bug stuck to the rim of her drink cup when it was served to her.

"Obviously, that's not good. We don't want that," Dean Dennis Reed said. Reed said he was told



Used containers, uneaten food and trash are left piled on tables while students gather at the cafeteria.

by Breckell to work with the inspector and solve the problems.

Health department spokesman Carl Charles said that because of new legislation, there is no regulation for regularly scheduled inspections for a college run cafeteria.

Charles said that several colleges objected two years ago to the inspections, claiming that a college was a school and not a retail restaurant establishment and therefore should not have to submit to the inspections. The health department no longer has jurisdiction to make regular inspections, Charles said.

The last inspection for the Valley College cafeteria had been Oct. 24, 1995, according to health de-

See Health Violations Page 2

Valley College Develops Non-Traditional Programs

By BEN ALTER
STAR REPORTER

Two new non-traditional college programs can help students earn units toward an AA degree while devoting less time to classes.

The first new program is Weekend College, which allows students to complete a semester of classes in just three weekends, program director Sandy Mayo said.

Participating students attend class on Friday nights from 6-10 p.m., Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Sundays from noon until 4:30 p.m. for a total of 15.5 hours per weekend and 46.5 total hours for the course, Mayo explained.

Weekend College is still in the experimental stages, Mayo said, but Valley is offering two courses

this semester: Health 11 and Computer Science 801. Both courses are scheduled to begin April 18, are CSU and UC transferable and accredited toward an AA degree.

The second program is the Project Adult College Education (PACE) which is "specifically set up with the working adult in mind" according to the first issue of "Non-Trad News," the newsletter for Non-Traditional Programs at Valley College.

"PACE is similar to Weekend College in that they are for people who are very concerned about time. People are always in a hurry these days and they have trouble committing to long term commitments," Mayo said.

There are no classes scheduled

See PACE Page 2



Director of Forensics Yancy Duncan (left) gathers with the victorious Valley College Speech Team after Sunday's award ceremony in Monarch Hall.

Speech Team Wins Big

By LINDA E. THOMAS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Valley College speech team cleaned off the trophy table with 17 wins at the PSCFA Spring Championship Speech Tournament award ceremony in Monarch Hall Sunday night.

Speech students from throughout California and the western U.S. gathered on the Valley College campus last weekend to compete in the tournament. The three-day event was the first tournament Valley College has hosted in fifteen years.

Hundreds of students from 35

colleges and universities were

dressed to the "nines" toting props, costumes, picnic coolers and those unmistakable black speech notebooks as they scurried across campus from one round of competition to another.

The following Valley College students competed in the tournament: William Amaya, Jason Baumwirt, Kristin Calabrese, Mercedes Cerrillos, Johanna Denis, Wendy Estevez, Lisa Foltz, Sara Katan, Margaret Lee-Huh, Holly Prevost and Alexander Sack.

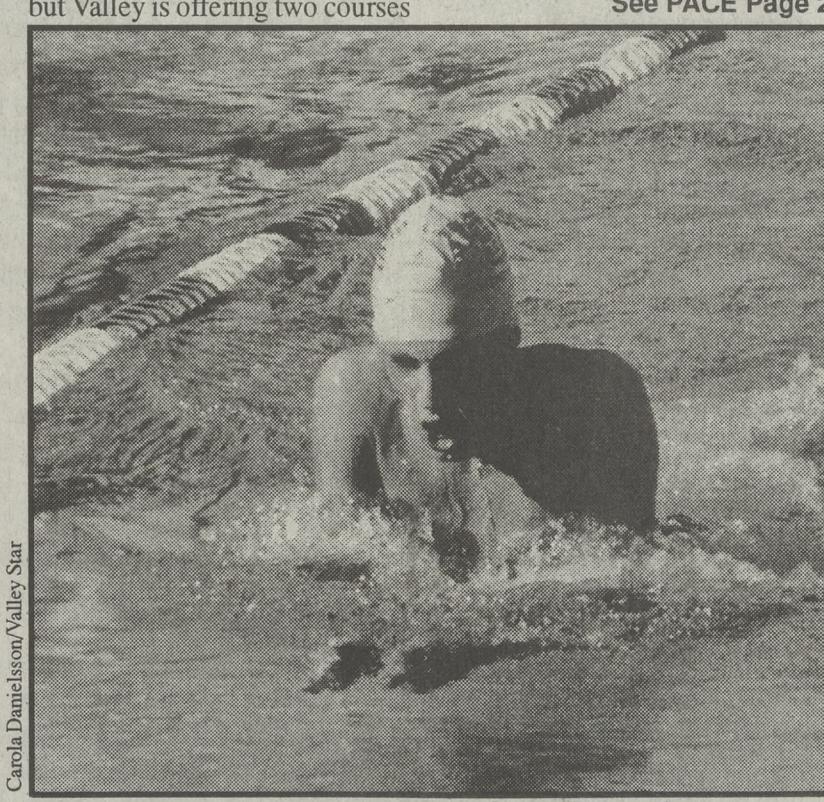
Every Valley College competitor walked away with at least

one award.

"I'm speechless," Lee-Huh humorously said after winning first place in the Jr. Persuasive category. "I'm really excited. It was pretty tough, but I finally got it down."

The students compete on three levels: novice, junior and senior. The novice level is primarily for students in their first year of competition, after which they graduate to junior level. The senior standing is for the most experienced competitor and must endure the toughest requirements and judging. Valley students competed

See Tournament Page 2



Valley swimmer Tom Fernley swims to victory in Saturday's meet.

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NEWS

2 Friday, March 7, 1997

Valley Star

LAVC Hosts Western State Speech Tournament

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on all three levels.

"Not only did they perform just super, they also worked the tournament when they were not competing in their rounds," Yancy Duncan, director of forensics at Valley College and host of the tournament said.

"It's a great opportunity to develop your ability to present yourself," Valley competitor Alexander Sack said. "If you walk away with nothing less, you at least walk away with the experience of communication with people and chiseling away meaningless mannerisms that may distract from your point; and, chicks dig speech."

Sack beat out UCLA, CSUN and a total of 35 other colleges and universities to capture first place in Junior Drama. Sack has been competing since spring '96 and has practiced his speeches for this tournament every day since December.

Jason Baumwirt humorously delivered his speech about revenge of the nerds, for which he won third place.

"We are the brotherhood and we are strong. We are the nerds," Baumwirt presented. "When your terminal breaks, you're at our mercy. When you finally figure out those complicated programs, we change them."

Kristin Calabrese, Holly Prevost and Johanna Denis, who made up Valley's Reader's Theatre Team, nabbed third place with their performance of "Leavings." The audience laughed and cried as the team presented their darkly humorous prose and song.

"The reasons for running are as numerous as the people who run," they read. They wove dramatic tales from playful youngsters running away from home to hopeless suicide.

Most events have eight preliminary rounds and then numerous elimination rounds, then finals. The first, second and third place

winners were not announced until the awards ceremony Sunday. Competitors who made it to the finals could have easily presented the same speech eight or more times in the same day for each category they entered.

"It's really tiring, just the mental strain," Scott Eichler of Saddleback College said. "It's great experience. For anyone who would ever speak publicly, it's the best thing they could ever do."

One competitor dragging costumes and props ran across the campus lawn hollering, "Do we get a break to put together our props, or do we just have to HURRY?" "You just have to HURRY!" a teammate yelled back.

There was little or no time between rounds, competitors said. At one point, the Quad looked like a track event instead of a speech event.

"It's fun. I am kind of nervous," Valley College Speech Team member Lisa Foltz said the second day of competition. "I like speech. I want to be an actress. It's good experience for auditions." Foltz won third place for Novice Drama.

Valley competitors Ginger Takeshita and Mercedes Cerillos competed together in "Duo."

"I consider it useful later on in my career goal," Takeshita said. "Personally, it's great getting to know yourself and have yourself blossom to the fullest you can be." Takeshita is a child psychology major.

Several students from various colleges, including Valley College, attended the tournament for extra credit in their speech classes or just to view the competition. The Reader's Theatre room was filled to capacity during the final round of competition.

"President Tyree and all the staff are very supportive. Without their support, we could not have run this tournament or developed this

team," Marty Taras, former director of forensics at Valley College for 24 years, said.

Taras now teaches part-time and helps with the speech team.

"This is an exiting activity from the standpoint of personal growth for the student that can help in any endeavor they go into," Taras said. "There's been studies done, that 85-90 percent of the people in Who's Who in American were involved in forensics in college."

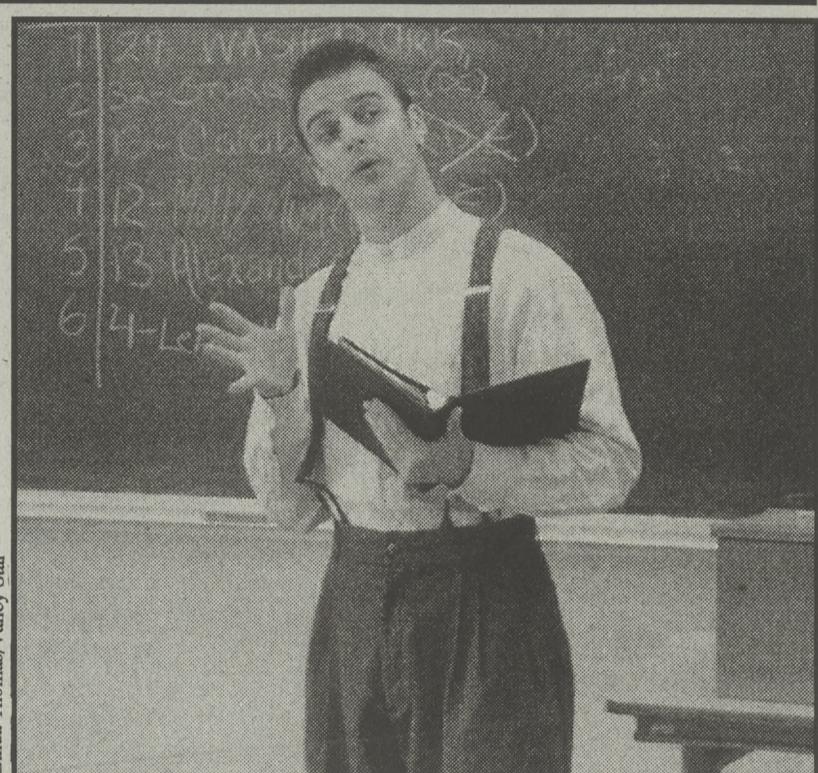
Taras explained that students are often offered scholarships to four-year colleges to compete on the speech team, however, the student does not have to be a speech

major.

"We have the guns. The students have worked very hard. We don't stress winning here, we never have. The students do that. We just stress that they grow and become knowledgeable. When that happens, they become winners," Taras said.

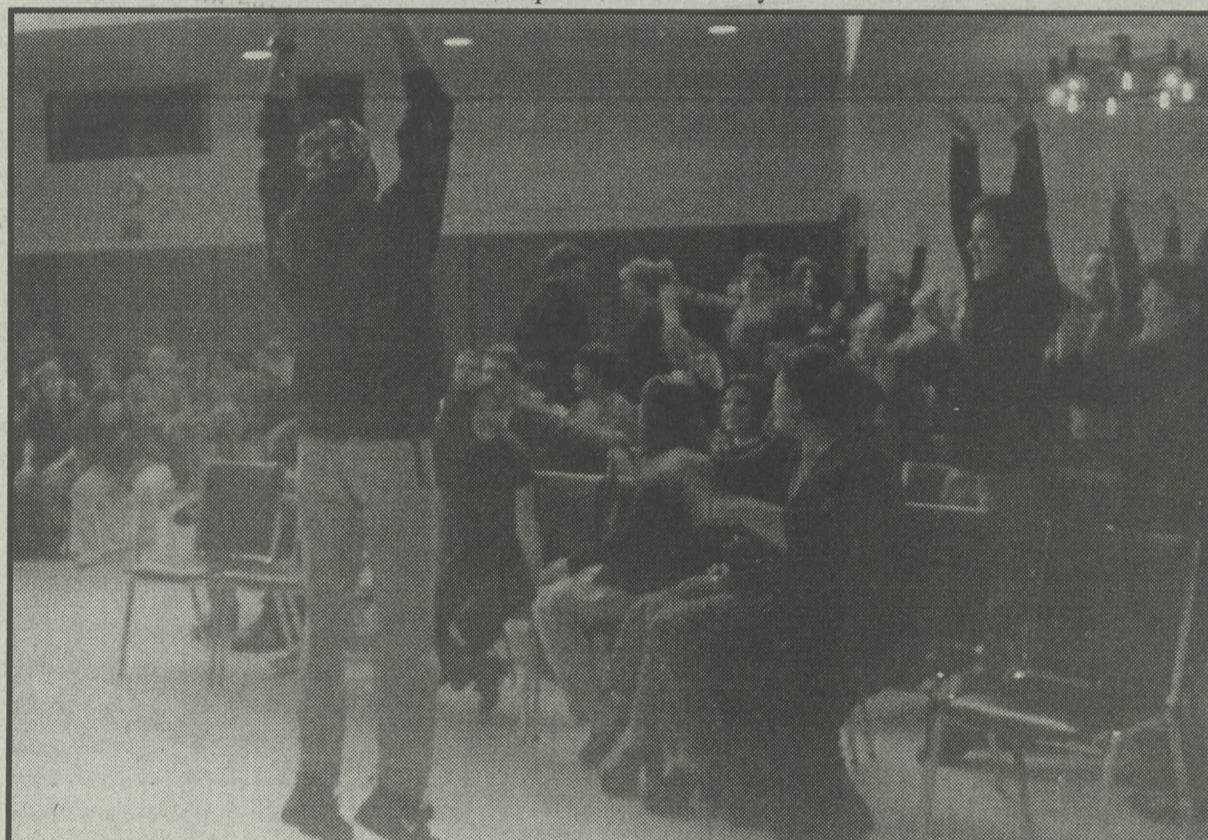
Valley ranked sixth in the nation last year, Taras said. Valley usually ranks in the top ten in the nation and has been number one numerous times.

The Valley College speech team is competing this week in London, England, the first time Valley has ever competed internationally.



Linda Thomas/Valley Star

Valley competitor Alex Sack recites his speech in the third round. Sack won first place in Jr. Drama.



Luis Vasquez/Valley Star

Valley College Speech Team Awards

First Place

Jr. Persuasive Margaret Lee-Huh
Jr. Drama Alexander Sack
Novice Poetry Johanna Denis
Novice Prose Sara Katan

Second Place

Novice Drama Johanna Denis
Sr. Program of Interpretation
Holly Prevost

Third Place

St. Impromptu Mike Kalustian
Sr. Persuasive Holly Prevost
Novice Drama Lisa Foltz
Jr. Program of Interpretation
Jason Baumwirt

Reader's Theatre Holly Prevost
Kristin Calabrese
Johanna Denis

Finalists

Jr. Program of Interpretation
Wendy Estevez
Jr. Poetry Mercedes Cerillos
Sr. Poetry Ginger Takeshita
Speech to Entertain
Jason Baumwirt
Sr. Drama William Amaya

Team Sweepstakes Award

PACE Program in Planning Stages

Continued from Page 1
for the new PACE program yet, Mayo said.

In the PACE program, each semester is divided into two nine-week terms, according to "Non-Trad News." Two courses are offered the first nine weeks and two courses are offered the second nine weeks. The courses are taken from the Valley College catalog and follow outlines approved by the appropriate curriculum committees.

The PACE program should begin in August with the Fall '97 semester, Mayo said, and will offer students a transferable AA degree in five semesters with classes just one night per week and eight Saturdays per semester.

Students enrolling in PACE must be eligible for Mathematics 125 and English 101; and those not eligible may sign up for and special "Bridge" program which begins this summer, Mayo said.

For more information, call (818) 778-0435 or visit Campus Center Room 216.

Health Code Violations Plague Food Areas at Valley College

Continued from Page 1

partment records.

"I don't know if that's a long time or a short time," Breckell said. "The cafeteria manager inspects the cafeteria. Cafeteria managers are not required to inspect, but it's his job to keep the cafeteria clean and free of violations."

Although Breckell said that she eats in the cafeteria almost every day, she does not conduct formal inspections.

The cafeteria was found in violation of hazardous material codes for improper use of potentially toxic roach powder.

"Roach powder is considered a major hazardous material problem, being one with significant potential harm," Burk said.

Valley College was ordered to "remove all roach powder in kitchen areas - discontinue use" and "remove all roach powder from food storage/display areas" according to the official inspection report.

"Unless the roach powder is deemed to be suitable for a food service area, it is to be removed because it's toxic," Burk said. "The potential for toxicity does exist."

There were four employee hygiene violations, including hand washing, disease transmission and employee habits according to the official inspection report.

"Hands are to be maintained,

clean and free of cuts and loose skin," Burk said. "I noticed a food preparer had calluses and loose skin on his hands and they were not clean and suitable for a food handler."

Burk said that the food handlers were not wearing gloves and he strongly encouraged them to do so.

In the official inspection report, Valley College was ordered to "ensure proper hygiene by all food handling personnel - e.g. hands" and "provide soap and paper towel dispensers."

Burk said that he did not actually see a rodent during the inspection, however, certain of the holes in the walls were possible entryways for rodents and that constituted a rodent violation.

"I did see dead bugs in the light diffuser in the cafeteria. Sometimes when there's infestation, there may be dead bugs seen in the light diffuser," Burk said. Light diffusers are opaque coverings placed over fluorescent tubes.

Cafeteria manager Albert Fierro said, "I got rid of the exterminator because they were not doing a good job. We're doing it ourselves now."

Fierro said that he hasn't had a professional exterminator contractor since September.

"We had had them for about ten years and they just weren't doing much," Fierro said. "They would just come in and leave real fast, too fast. The problem with the roaches got worse and worse."

Charles said that students may

call in complaints on any health and safety issues regarding the Valley College campus by phoning the West Valley District office at (818) 834-3370.

Liz Rodriguez contributed to this story.

Health Code Violations According to Official Inspection Report:

Cafeteria:

Protection:

Storage

Employees:

Handwashing

Disease Transmission

Employee Habits

Verm:

Rodents

Insects

Utencils/Equipment:

Sanitation

Equipment Condition

Utencil Condition

Storage

Food Storage:

Storage Facilities

Refrigerator Units

Thermometer

Hazardous Materials

Waste:

Liquid Waste

Refuse

Premises

Rest Room:

Dressing Rooms

Floors

Walls-Ceiling

Lighting

Facilities:

Floors

Walls-Ceiling

Lighting

Janitorial Facilities:

Lighting

Court Satellite:

Handwashing

Equipment Condition

Storage

Storage Facilities

Refrigerator Units

Liquid Waste

Ventilation

Floors

Walls-Ceiling

Coffee House:

Storage

Equipment Condition

Thermometer

Liquid Waste

Refuse

Premises

Ventilation

Floors

Walls-Ceiling

Arade:

Storage

Walls-Ceiling

Lighting

Storage

Walls-Ceiling

FEATURE

Valley Star

Now Appearing: The Spring Skies

It's showtime again at the LAVC Planetarium March 15 at 8 p.m. with a new show, "The Spring Sky."

LAVC Astronomy Instructor David Falk will present the many sights of the evening skies: bright constellations, glowing gas clouds and brilliant clusters.

Falk will give an inside look at the myths behind the famous constellations of the Spring sky.

Guests will be shown how to find constellations in the sky and will meet those constellations "close-up" under the Planetarium dome, Falk said.

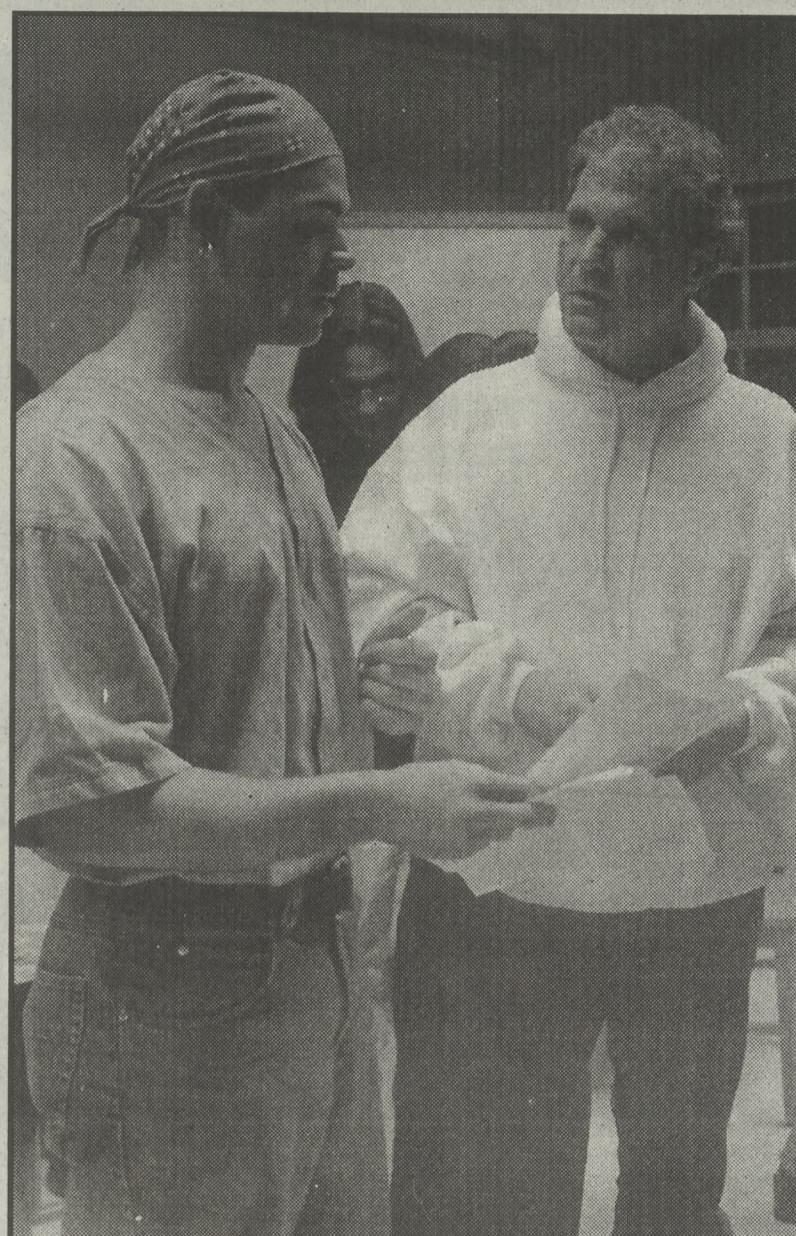
The show will combine narrative, music, slides and the planetarium star projector which gives the illusion of being under the stars.

The evening will also include a tour of the current evening sky.

Weather permitting, the Observatory's 16-inch Celestron telescope will be open for viewing the sky before and after the presentation.

The Astronomy Club advises that no previous knowledge of astronomy is needed to enjoy the presentation, just an interest in the universe.

Phone (818) 778-0335 for more information.



Valley College student Michael Barros gets showbiz tips from Hollywood behind-the-scenes man Charles Cypher.

Anorexia & Bulimia: How Thin is Too Thin?

By LIZ BARRETT
FEATURE EDITOR

Studies have shown that over 70 percent of women think that they are overweight, even though they may be their ideal weight according to physicians.

In a world geared toward being thin, many women will do almost anything to look like the women they see on TV and in magazines.

The American Anorexia/Bulimia Association, Inc. (AA/BA) says some women choose anorexia in their fight to be thin.

They engage in excessive exercise and starve themselves, only to find that they are never thin enough. Many end up in a hospital bed from malnutrition and dehydration.

The AA/BA says others choose bulimia in which they eat excessive amounts of food and then vomit or use laxatives to get the food out of their system as soon as possible. They also end up in the hospital from dehydration and liver damage.

Both Anorexia Nervosa and

Bulimia Nervosa are caused by negative body imaging, extreme concern over weight, and anxiety or depression experts report.

Doctors say that Anorexia Nervosa is self starvation. The individual is terrified of gaining weight or maintaining a normal weight. They have a distorted image of their shape and size, and are generally in denial about their condition. They are often confused about the realities of the situation.

Psychiatrists say anorexic and bulimic individuals often have a family history of either alcoholism or depression, and usually have low self-esteem.

At the start of the disorder, they may be suffering from the stresses of family relationships or social pressures.

Anorexics usually take pride in their weight loss and see it as a way to gain a sense of accomplishment. They often feel superior to those who "have no control over their weight" and feel inferior to those who ap-

pear thinner.

According to the AA/BA, bulimia is characterized by frequent binge eating. The binger sometimes eats all that their stomach can hold and then uses a form of purging, such as vomiting and/or the use of laxatives or diuretics.

Like the anorexic, bulimics have a distorted image of their body.

Cases have shown that in specific instances, bulimics eat beyond their stomach's capacity and suffer a ruptured stomach cavity. They can also create an esophageal rupture caused by continual vomiting.

According to doctors, bulimics can suffer from blood sugar fluctuations, loss of teeth due to the repetitive bath of stomach acids over tooth enamel and their intestines can become full of holes from laxative abuse.

Liver damage, kidney damage and heart damage are not uncommon.

Even if bulimics are treated and pull themselves out of the disorder, they could still be left with serious medical problems later in life.

Studies have shown that most anorexics and bulimics simply will not stop their behavior until they are at their breaking point and the behavior forces them to be admitted into the hospital and fed through an IV.

They just do not see anything wrong with what they are doing, and so they continue to do it.

The AA/BA studies have shown that many anorexics and bulimics get down to a weight that is so low their bodies cannot function to normal capacity anymore.

A large number of cases show that the anorexic or bulimic has let their weight drop below 90 pounds.

One specific case of a 20-year-old woman showed that her weight at the time of her death was 38 pounds.

Psychiatrists suggest that whenever a person is approached about his or her eating disorder, it is essential to do so in a supportive and non-judgmental way.

Since bulimia is a disorder asso-

ciated with guilt, do not make the bulimic feel more guilty. Let them know that you are there to help them if they need you, but do not push yourself on them.

There are many support

groups for people with eating disorders. One local group meets in Woodland Hills and also offers individual psychotherapy by a licensed counselor. If interested, call Joyce Levy-Katz, M.A. at (818)701-2040.

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OPINION

4 Friday, March 7, 1997

Valley Star

Seeing Double

By LIZ RODRIGUEZ
OPINION EDITOR

Science fiction became science fact February 22 when a group of scientists at the Roslin Institute in Scotland made history when they announced they successfully cloned an adult sheep for the first time. At first, one might think that this is a great and wonderful discovery. Hooray for science!

But, sit and think about it for a while. This is truly frightening. The advancements in human technology are increasing exponentially. God gave us intelligence to advance and progress, but did he really intend for it to be used so that we can play God ourselves?

We have the power to custom make a person. We can just turn chromosomes on and off so that we can decide what our child will look like. Of course, the process of turning chromosomes on and off is great to help prevent birth defects, but as soon as this process is perfected, some people will use this procedure just so that they won't have "ugly" children.

The concept of cloning was once believed as a fantasy, something for Hollywood. That is no longer so. This process hasn't gone as far as the movie "Multi-

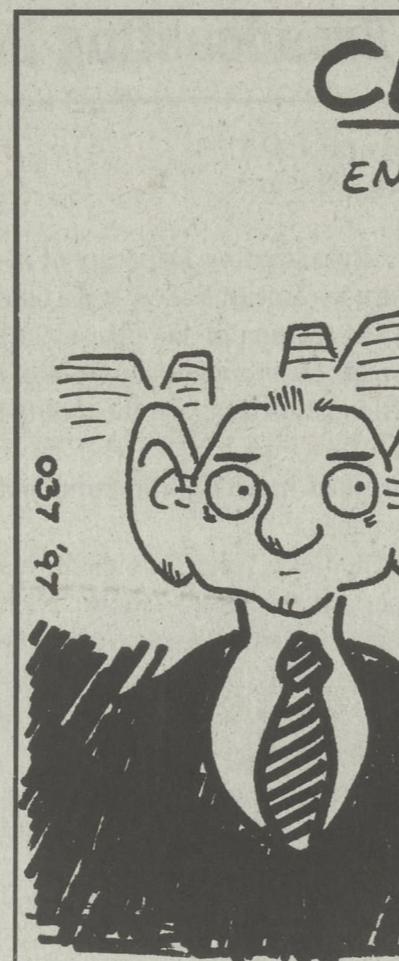
plicity," but in a decade or so, it probably will.

Hopefully, this process will be used for good, to genetically duplicate something in need of duplication, like endangered species, but cynicism may win this one. Most likely this process will be used by rich psychos like Michael Jackson. The narcissists can have a field day with cloning. Now, they will be able to have a child that not only looks just like them - but is them.

Cloning humans, thankfully, has not been attempted, yet. It is still very dangerous. Just imagine, we still don't know what kind of bizarre side effects this sheep will have.

It took the scientists approximately 300 tries to get a normal sheep which was not deformed. If this was done in humans, an infinite amount of things could go wrong. The child could have physical defects, for example, an extra arm or leg, four stomachs or no face. The child could also have mental disabilities, be psychotic or have an extremely low learning ability.

Not only that, it is just plain wrong to experiment on humans that way. It raises many questions. How many infant lives would be



lost to horrendous birth defects? Do we have the right to treat humans like guinea pigs? Or sheep in this case?

If this process is perfected, what is going to stop these scientists from cloning humans in an

attempt to create the perfect human or even worse, a slave race?

One of the reasons humans have lasted so long on earth is because we have a great system for reproduction. What gives us the right to disturb a process which

has worked quite well for millions of years? Instead of working on

how to make the perfect human, scientists should work on making the perfect contraceptive, the earth is overpopulated enough already.

When that sheep sprouts two

heads and goes on a murdering rampage, I will be the first one to say, "I told you so."

Star reporters Liz Rodriguez and Liz Rodriguez contributed to this story.

Letter to the Editor

I have been involved with the Theatre Program here as an instructor since the Fall of 1970. Never in all those years have I read a review like the recent one for our Honorary Drama Clubs production of "Ten Little Indians."

Don't get me wrong, I don't believe a critic on a college paper should soft pedal their opinion of a play just because it happens to be an on campus event. Quite the contrary. That would be a meaningless exercise for both the critic and those involved in the play. But the review for "Ten Little Indians" was needlessly cruel.

"I hate to say it but the set and effects were the best part of the play." That's fine for Siskel and Ebert but has no place in the review of a college play.

The young man who was

singled out as "pathetically miscast," was no more miscast than most of his colleagues, many playing way beyond their years. This happens in college productions at the time. If twenty year old students did not play older characters we would be severely limited as to what we could produce. And Theatre students would miss the opportunity to play many wonderful roles - and thus stretch and grow as actors. All part of the learning experience. Part of that experience should be the willingness to take on challenging roles, and even the right to not quite measure up to the task, without being destroyed. It's hard enough in the real world to face that, but at that point it's your job and all of that comes with the territory.

I would hope that the writer would reflect on her association with a play done earlier this year, "The Ugly Duckling." A play, and a performance, that got a review that was equally undeserving.

Peter Parkin, Assoc. Prof.
Theatre Arts Department

cate egos. I'm sure student journalists do too. But they do not have criticism of their learning experiences printed in black and white for the entire campus to see.

I am particularly surprised at the review because the young woman who wrote it is also a member of the Valley College Players who produced the play. As a member she is aware that this play was cast from club members only and not the student body at large, as all our other productions are.

I would hope that the writer would reflect on her association with a play done earlier this year, "The Ugly Duckling." A play, and a performance, that got a review that was equally undeserving.

Peter Parkin, Assoc. Prof.
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should not have to run to the local gun shop to beg for a better arsenal.

Take a cue from the boy scouts: "Be prepared."

As much as I would hate to see the day when cops patrol the streets in howitzers, it is obvious that they need to carry the necessary ordinance to even the odds in circumstances such as these.

Now, think back a few more days and recall the shoot-out in Northridge that culminated with the wounding of a not-so-innocent bystander. Four gun toting teens stage a robbery wary aware that they are under surveillance by the SIS (Special Investigations Squad), a faction of the LAPD that deals specifically with the most unpredictable and dangerous of criminals. I don't dispute that the circumstances were crafted by the SIS to illicit a certain response from the prey, namely a gunfight the perps had no hope of winning.

What I don't understand is why anyone sees anything wrong with that. These highly volatile suspects posed a clear and present danger to the community and its inhabitants. They needed to be put down, not arrested. However, these banditos were not executed as some people say. They were given an option to surrender. They flatly refused, further substantiating my belief that stupid people should not breed.

Now, the real issue in this shooting is not the death of the robbers, but the wounding of a bystander by police. Grover Smith was shot by officers when he was spotted fleeing the scene, mistaken for a suspect and summarily shot. Yes, it was unfortunate that the wrong man was shot, but he was not an innocent bystander. The man was pursued because he ran. He was shot because he was non-compliant. He feared that he was the object of this intense manhunt.

What an egotist! For him to believe that his outstanding warrant would justify a platoon of police cars and a helicopter is sheer idiocy. His pain is the result of his own incompetence. Hell, he should have been shot sooner for just being named Grover.

Next Week: Technophobia

If I Wanted Your Opinion...

This Week's Topic: LAPD

By LEO SMITH
STAR REPORTER

All right. I know I promised ya'll a story about technophobia, but I gotta be topical. Sorry.

Well, this has been an exciting week hasn't it? Two deadly shoot-outs inside of a week, complete with villains in black and heroes...in black. However, even though anyone with an IQ greater than that of a rutabaga can see that all the actions taken by the police were absolutely necessary, some half-wits still scream extremitism.

By now, we've all seen it about a couple of times, those confident bastards marching out of that plundered bank unto their inevitable death. Did they realize it was over or did they harbor some misguided hope of escape? Who knows what was going through their heads, save for the occasional bullet.

The only thing that bothers me about these events, and second only to the injuries the good guys suffered, was being reminded at how pathetically out-gunned the cops were. Our "boys in blue"

should not have to run to the local gun shop to beg for a better arsenal. They needed to be put down, not arrested. However, these banditos were not executed as some people say. They were given an option to surrender. They flatly refused, further substantiating my belief that stupid people should not breed.

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Next Week: Technophobia

Liz Strikes Back

Keep them in Check
not at fault though. It is their parents' fault.

By LIZ RODRIGUEZ
OPINION EDITOR

All my life, I have wondered what it would be like to have a kid. I would love to hear the pitter patter of little feet running across my floor. I would love to have a little boy with green eyes and dark hair, like me, to call me mommy.

Then one day, from out of nowhere, a thought struck me: "What in the world am I thinking? Have I gone insane?"

After years of dealing with and studying kids, I have realized that kids are hard to handle. Sure, a great majority of them are adorable and incredibly sweet, but there are some that are just nightmares. These little hellions are

defacing or destroying property and beating up on smaller kids. The parents just stand there and they won't say a word. I just want to slap the parents and scream, "For Christ sake, correct your little brat!"

People, don't think that letting your child get away with bad behavior is going to make them love you more. They will just disrespect you and walk all over you. If you learn to discipline them in a firm but loving manner, later on when they are teenagers, they will love you and respect you more.

They will also grow up to be respected and responsible in society. Most likely, they will be good parents too.

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The Valley Star is published weekly throughout the school year by students of the Journalism and Photography classes using computers and Aldus Pagemaker.

Represented by CASS
Advertising Service
1800 Sherman Place
Evanston, IL 60201

Editorial and Advertising Offices are located at 5800 Fulton Avenue, Van Nuys, CA 91401, (818) 778-0276, Advertising: (818) 778-0239

ENTERTAINMENT

Valley Star

Friday, March 7, 1997 5

This Little Piggie Goes for Coffee

By ALICE GARABEDIAN
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

What do you think of when you hear the word bourgeois? How about the word pig? Well, put them together and get The Bourgeois Pig. Still don't know what I'm talking about? Well then, you haven't been in Hollywood lately.

It's Friday night, and it's the same boring coffee shop you and your friends always go to. Nothing is different - the same coffee, the same atmosphere, the same people. Looking for a change, something new and different? Then, "The Pig" is the place for you.

Among the rucus and noise of the typical Hollywood life, there lies an escape in the hills. The coffee is strong and so are the people. Equipped with two pool tables, comfortable seats and funky music, which varies to fit the mood, The Pig is a quaint place to go and relax with a bunch of friends.

Be engulfed with the sounds of electronic waves and rock from the moment you walk in. With black painted walls, and newly hung art, The Pig is like no other place ever seen. Red and white

spotlights hang from the ceiling to give it that underground look. Pig patrons will never go back to the trendy shops they once experienced.

"I've been here before. I told my friend to meet me here so we can hang out and play pool. It's cool, the music is different from what I am used to," Jay Ciuitello, 23, of Hollywood Hills said.

Meeting people is not a problem at The Pig. Even the most shy can still strike up a conversation with someone during a pool game.

"It's a good place. I'm planning on coming back, with friends," Joe Maslanka, 25, from Sherman Oaks, said.

To get there, just take the 101 south, exit left on Gower, take a right on Franklin, and you'll notice a bundle of people outside.

Don't worry about teenyboppers, it's 18 and over, with ID and a one drink minimum.

Before you stop in, be sure to check out the cozy little bookstore next door. It's filled with magazines, books and colorful gifts.

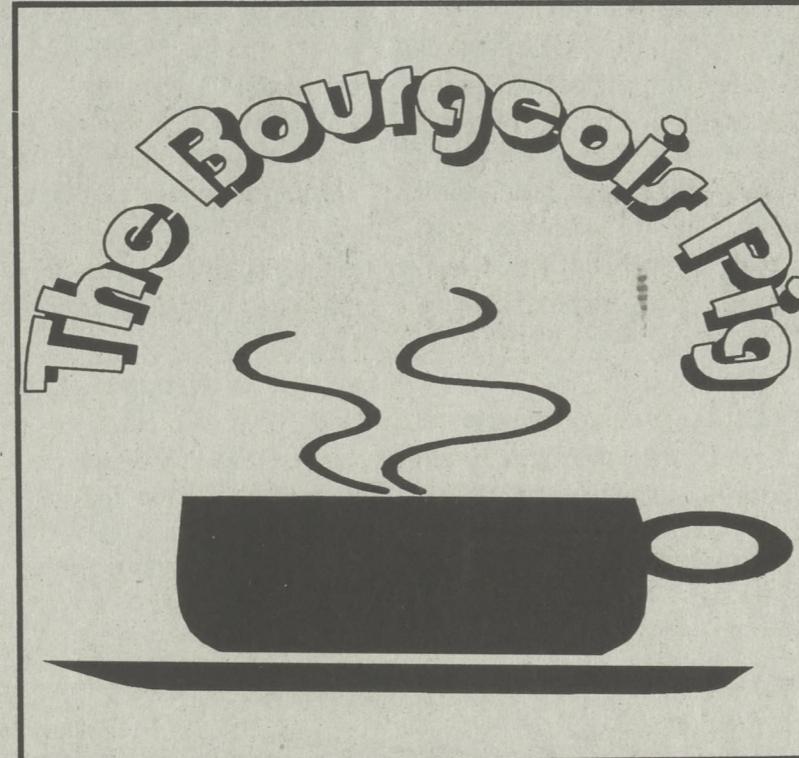


Photo Courtesy of Mammoth Recording Company

The Squirrel Nut Zippers revive 1920s big band swing for all types of music lovers in the '90s.

The Zippers Swing into the '90s

By MIKE VARELA
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Are you tired of listening to the same style of music, those same bar chords and beats? Do you know every word to that overplayed hit your mother now knows? Well then my friends, you've come to the right place!

Not far from your home is a local record store that carries what you need. Among those chaotic aisles of nonsense, you'll find an escape from monotony, but you have to know where to look.

Upon getting a taste of The Squirrel Nut Zippers in my friend's

car, I proceeded to the nearest music store and bought their CD. I fell in love instantly with the change of pace.

Remember your grandparents' music, that jazzy sort of classy, bluesy style from the '20s? Well the '20s are back, and sassier than ever.

This born-again sound is so hip, that your grandparents will take back those nasty things they said about your taste in music.

The Zippers are characterized as "Big Band" music which adds vocals, strings and percussion to give it that orchestra sort of feeling.

This group has it all, from vocals to guitars, saxophone to banjo

and clarinet to string bass. Not only can you sing along with this music, it is also grooveable.

With their release of "Hot," the Zippers broke the status quo among popular music. They even get air play on KROQ. The "Hot" album was recorded in New Orleans in 1995 and is now in stores everywhere.

For all you skeptics out there, I suggest you head out to the nearest record store to a listening booth and take it for a test drive.

I am sure your ears will thank you. While there, try out "Hell," it is my favorite. I hope you enjoy the Zippers as much as I do, because the same thing over and over again, is too boring.

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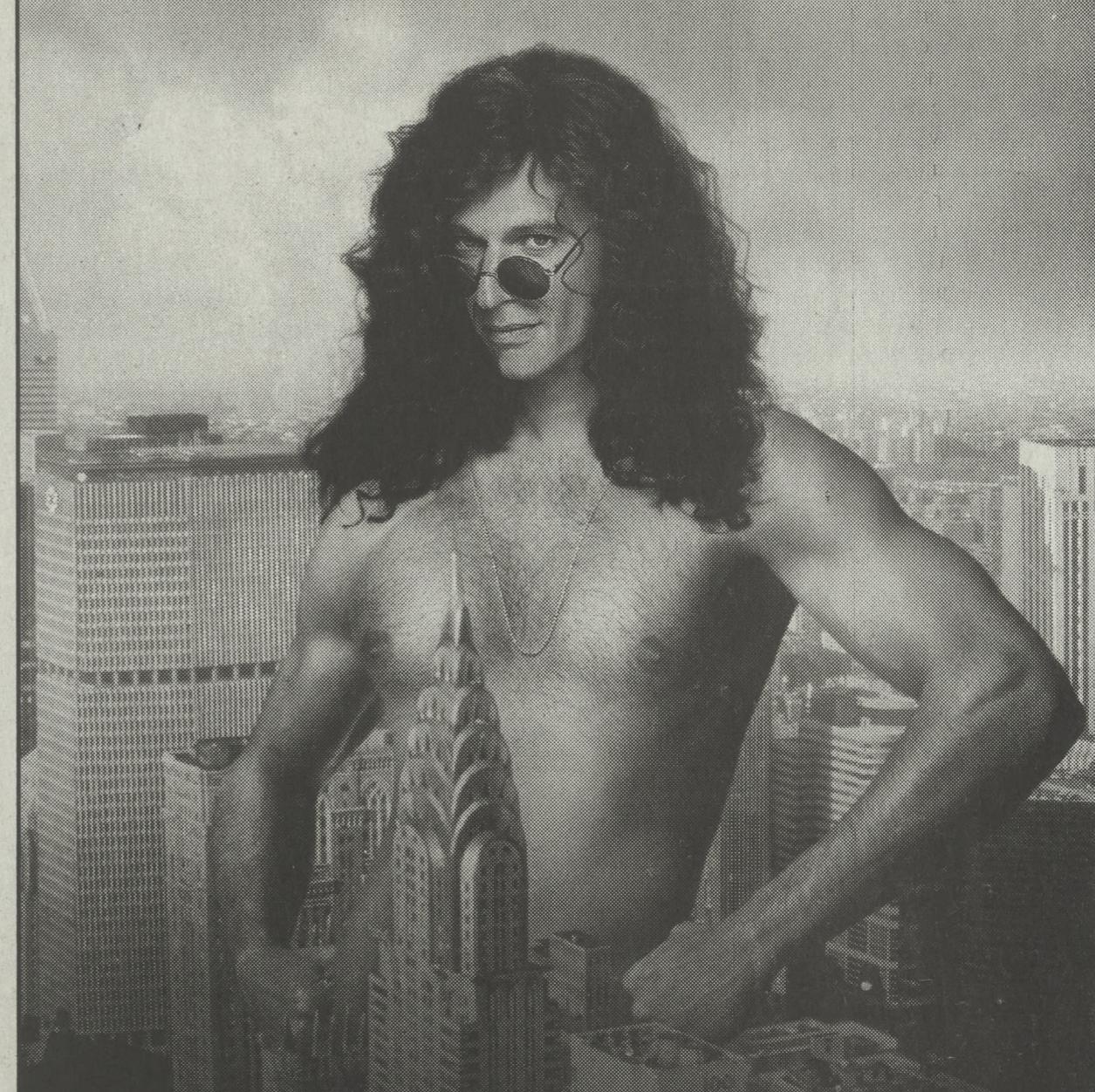
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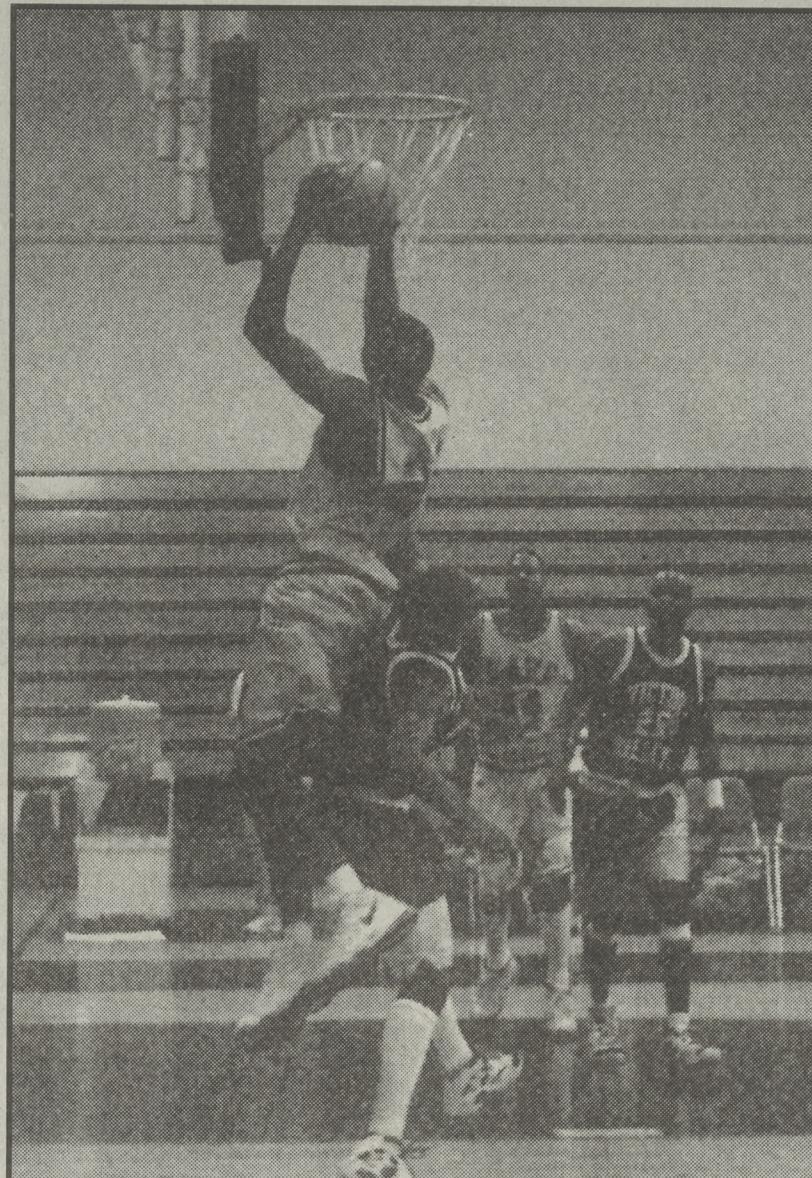
SET DRESSING AND PROPS BY MICHAEL KALESNIKO

SPORTS

6 Friday, March 7, 1997

Valley Star

Monarchs Do It Again with 67-63 Playoff Win



Pierre Elize jumps over his opponent for two points. Carola Danielsson/Valley Star

By BEN ALTER
SPORTS EDITOR

The "second half team" did it again. They came from behind to win. Saturday night, the Valley College Monarchs faced off against the Victor Valley Running Rams in the first round of the Regional Basketball Playoffs, and walked away victoriously.

It started off with the Monarchs playing strong defense as they held the Rams scoreless in the first three minutes of the game.

Offguard Tyree Basey, along with point guard Benny Hoang and wing man Pierre Elize, each hit a three-pointer in the first half. At the end of the first half, Leon Brisport went up strong with a one-handed dunk on a fast break opportunity.

The Monarchs lost their lead early in the first half because of a lack of offensive output, causing them to go into the half

losing 26-19.

The Monarchs went into the second half with the comfort that they were only down by seven points.

"We're always down at the half, we expect it," Basey said. "We're a second half team."

The second half started with two exceptional players making big plays, on their way to putting up great numbers for the night.

Center Leon Brisport opened up the second half with a three-pointer and a strong rebound on his way to 13 points and eight rebounds for the night.

Offguard Gianandrea Marcaccini hit two three-pointers and a two-pointer on top of his two free throws to finish the game with 10 points, all of which came in the second half.

Marcaccini's second three-pointer gave the Monarchs the lead for the first time since early in the first half.

Other standouts in the game were Hoang, who finished with nine points and seven assists.

Hoang also had two key plays at the end of the game, when he stole the ball, took it down court, hit the lay-up and then was fouled. After a time-out, Hoang made his free throw.

At the end of the game, wing/post Onaje Longmire set a pick which allowed Hoang to break free and make a three-pointer, putting the Monarchs up by one point.

Basey finished the game with nine points and four rebounds, topped off by a clutch drive toward the end of the game.

Post Carlton Frasier had a great night, as he posted his first career double-double with 11 points and 11 rebounds.

The Monarchs' 67-63 win gave them the opportunity to play Compton College in the next round.

"This game will be the toughest yet, as we face Compton's 7'2" center, the first seven-footer we've faced this season," Coach Doug Michaelson said.

See next week's issue for coverage of the Compton game.

International Hoopster

By BEN ALTER
SPORTS EDITOR

An Israeli has joined the Valley College basketball team.

Eliezer Seckbach joins the Monarchs from Jerusalem, Israel, after a short six month stint in the Israeli Army.

Seckbach started playing the game when he was a young child. He lived in a small town outside of Jerusalem, where he said the only thing to do is play basketball.

Seckbach said that he came to this country to develop his skills and to see a different style of basketball.

Some of the differences that Seckbach said he noticed between the U.S. and Israel are the length of practices, they are much shorter there. Also, coaches are seen more as buddies, and the game is also much slower there.

Seckbach said that he has become Americanized, but isn't forgetting his goals. He is currently carrying a 3.0 GPA.

Swim Team Strokes to Victory

By ALLEN COCHRANE
STAR REPORTER

The L.A. Valley Monarchs swim team scored decisive wins in both the men's and women's divisions in a meet against Chaffee College Friday.

The men were able to get their first win in a league meet this season and came away with a 62-42 victory at the meet held at Valley's pool.

The women dominated their division and wound up on the plus side of a 95-40 score.

"This team works very hard," Coach William Krauss said. Krauss said he was very pleased with his team's effort.

The men's division got off to a slow start in the first half of the competition, with a loss in the 400m medley relay and the 1000m freestyle, but came away with a win by Towner Douglas in the 200m freestyle in 1:59.84 and a win in the 200m individual medley by Nathan Burris in 2:17.44.

With half the meet completed, the Valley and Chaffee men's teams were all tied up at 24 points a piece.

The women started their division of the meet with a hard fought win in the 200m medley relay. With the team behind after the first three legs, Cynthia McGuiness gave a strong effort to take the lead and hold on for a Valley victory in 2:07.99.

In the 100m breaststroke, Jennifer Kaufmann had an easy race and won going away in 1:10, and this was followed by a first place finish in the 100m breaststroke by Kari Rittmiller in 1:20.66.

Valley was still comfortably on top in the women's division after half of the meet, 46-23.

The second half of the meet found Valley's men getting back on track, as Aaron Robinson won a hard fought 200m butterfly in 2:07.16 and it was another first by Robinson in the 500m freestyle swimming a 5:15.94.

Tom Fernley came away with another easy win for Valley in the 200m breaststroke, clocking 2:22.57, and the men rounded out their side of the tournament with a win in the 400m freestyle relay in 3:42.5.

The ladies slipped slightly to start their second half as Chaffee took

the 100m freestyle and 100m butterfly. Valley then got on a roll as they closed out the meet with victories in the last five events.

Kaufmann won the 50m backstroke in 31.10 and McGuiness won the 100m individual medley in 1:10.65. Anna Hartsfield then won the 500m freestyle in 6:34.05, her best time ever, and Rittmiller returned to overwhelm the competition in the 50m breaststroke, winning in a dominating 37.40.

Closing out the swimming competition, the 200m freestyle team of Maureen Tansey, Amanda Cicoria, Jennifer Hindrichs and Taryn Goff won in 2:03.4.

In the diving events, Sam Flores for the men and Shayna Douglas and Karina Thompson for the women performed for Valley in a walkover in the men's and women's one and three meter dive.

Coach Krauss praised many individual members of his team for the effort they had put forth.

"Today our men's best was Aaron Robinson," Krauss said.

Valley swimmer Aaron Robinson swims to a second place finish in the 1000m freestyle. Carola Danielsson/Valley Star

"Tom Fernley looked real good in the 200m breaststroke, too."

The Valley team said they were generally pleased with the results of the meet, but the top performers said they felt they have better performances in them for the future.

"I felt I could have done better," Robinson said. "I felt a little sluggish. But overall I swam pretty well."

Robinson said he plans to attempt a run at the school's records in both mile and the 1000m in the near future but admits the shorter distances are his strong suit.

"The 200m fly is definitely my best event," Robinson said. "The senior nationals time is way in the future though. 1:54.15 is the yardstick and I have a best of 1:57."

Fernley said he was also happy

with his meet but said controlling his diet and limiting late evenings will make a difference in his results.

"I felt a little weak at the turns, probably because it's early in the season," Fernley said. "Overall I'm proud of my performance."

With this meet complete, Valley's men moved to a record of 1-2 and the women go to 2-1.

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Athletes of the Month

Charles Lee

Sport: Track and Field

Grade Level: Sophomore

High School: Cleveland

Accomplishments:

Winner of Men's 400m in Cerritos Invitational with a time of 47.48 seconds, which established a new meet record, and is the fastest time in the State of California to date. Lee is currently being recruited very heavily by universities.

Marisol Barajas

Sport: Track and Field

Grade Level: Freshman

High School: Van Nuys

Accomplishments:

Winner of the Women's 3000m at Cerritos Invitational with a time of 10:16.59, the fastest time in Southern California to date. Also anchored the Women's Distance Medley Relay that finished in a time of 13:31.92.